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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1630
INFO RUEHZA/WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 000885

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/20/2019
TAGS: [MARR](#) [PREL](#) [ES](#) [IR](#)
SUBJECT: EL SALVADOR ON U.S. MISSILE DEFENSE AND IRAN

REF: A. STATE 96526
[1](#)B. STATE 95073

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires Robert Blau, for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

[1](#)1. (C) PolCouns met with Joaquin Maza Martelli, Director General of Foreign Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), September 17 to discuss Iran and Missile Defense. Maza was not aware of the U.S. announcement regarding the change in missile defense policy, but was familiar with the subject. He understood the change in U.S. planning was based on our re-evaluation of the threat posed by Iran's missile programs and commented that this should ease Russian concerns. He welcomed the briefing and said he would get back to us if MFA had further questions as he prepared to brief the Foreign Minister on this issue.

[1](#)2. (C) Regarding Ref B, Maza said the government of El Salvador (GOES) was closely following the P5 1 outreach to Iran and noted with dismay Iran's continuing violations of human rights, press freedom, and the electoral process.

[1](#)3. (C) Post will notify the Department if it receives a further response from the MFA.
BLAU